IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RICHARD F. MURPHY Confirmation No.: 9920

Serial No.: 10/667,909 Examiner: C. KOHARSKI

Filed: SEPTEMBER 22, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3763

Docket No.: 1001.1530101 Customer No.: 28075

Title: SURFACE MODIFIED REINFORCING MEMBER FOR MEDICAL

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The undersigned hereby certify that this paper(s), as described herein, is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

Thu H. Le-To

MAY 19, 2010

Date

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due and the Notice of Allowability mailed February 19, 2010. With regard to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, while applicant believes that the claims are allowable, applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, or a single feature, as exactly stated by the Examiner, or as exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability. Applicants believe that there are additional reasons that the claims can be distinguished from the prior art, other than the reasons stated by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 19, 2010

J. Scot Wickhem, Reg. No. 41,376 CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC 1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800

1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420

Telephone: (612) 677-9050 Facsimile: (612) 359-9349